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Title : Regarding the need to rescind the order reducing the superannuation age of the employees of B.O.G.L. from 60 years to 58 years.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): To ensure that every citizen of our Republic is empowered to know how the Government programmes are being implemented, the Right to Information Act, 2005 was passed. It is a historic piece of legislation to increase transparency in the functioning of the Government at all levels. If it is so, why the Government is reducing the age from 60 years to 58 years for the closed unit of B.O.G.L. employees whereas other public sector enterprises are facilitated 60 years of age.

The superannuation age of the employees of B.O.G.L. is 60 years. A decision was taken by the Board of Directors of the Company long back on 16.7.2003 to reduce the same to 58 years which, however, was not implemented and the employees were allowed to superannuate at the age of 60 years till date. The Company has now all of a sudden decided to implement the said decision of 16.7.2003 with effect from 1.4.2005. This has naturally evoked widespread resentment amongst the 188 existing employees of the Company.

Through an Office Memorandum bearing Ref. No.18(9) 2004-G4 dated 18 April, 2005 of the Department of P.E., GOI, it has now been communicated "the Government has since reviewed this matter and it has been decided that the powers of roll back of age of retirement of employees of PSEs, including Board level Executives, shall henceforth vest with the Cabinet".

In view of this, the decision to implement the reduction in the age of superannuation at this stage taking the shelter of an unimplemented decision taken two years back cannot be a sequel to the earlier decision of 2003 and is quite unjustified.

I urge upon the Government to take corrective action in the matter.